

(b) (6) LCDR OPNAV, N09 JAG

---

**From:** Cox, Samuel J SES NHHHC, DNS-H  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 05, 2018 4:51  
**To:** Richardson, John M ADM CNO  
**Cc:** Moran, William F ADM, OPNAV, VCNO; Easter, Steffanie B SES OPNAV, VDNS; Wikoff, George M CAPT OPNAV, N00; (b) (6) CAPT OPNAV, DNS EA; (b) (6) LCDR OPNAV, DNS; (b) (6) CIV NHHHC, Deputy Director; (b) (6) . CIV NHHHC  
**Subject:** RE: NHHHC May CNO Monthly Report - follow up.

Aye CNO, Nothing automatic about it, except the date by which a review is supposed to start. Very respectfully, Sam

---

**From:** Richardson, John M ADM CNO  
**Sent:** Monday, June 04, 2018 9:49:50 PM  
**To:** Cox, Samuel J SES NHHHC, DNS-H  
**Cc:** Moran, William F ADM, OPNAV, VCNO; Easter, Steffanie B SES OPNAV, VDNS; (b) (6) CAPT OPNAV, N00; (b) (6) CAPT OPNAV, DNS EA; (b) (6) LCDR OPNAV, DNS; (b) (6) CIV NHHHC, Deputy Director; (b) (6) . CIV NHHHC; (b) (6) CIV NAVHISTHERITAGECOM, Asst. Director, Hist. & Archives  
**Subject:** RE: NHHHC May CNO Monthly Report - follow up.

Thanks Sam. Let's ensure that before we release anything, a thorough declass review is done. Doesn't sound automatic...

VR/ John

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Cox, Samuel J SES NHHHC, DNS-H  
**Sent:** Monday, June 04, 2018 4:45 PM  
**To:** Richardson, John M ADM CNO  
**Cc:** Moran, William F ADM, OPNAV, VCNO; Easter, Steffanie B SES OPNAV, VDNS; (b) (6) CAPT OPNAV, N00; (b) (6) CAPT OPNAV, DNS EA; (b) (6) LCDR OPNAV, DNS; (b) (6) CIV NHHHC, Deputy Director; (b) (6) . CIV NHHHC; Martin, Gregory J CIV NAVHISTHERITAGECOM, Asst. Director, Hist. & Archives  
**Subject:** NHHHC May CNO Monthly Report - follow up.

CNO,

In response to your question regarding Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and relationship with classified material:

BLUF: The FOIA review does not include redaction/removal of classified information. The records we are discussing have already been through an automatic declassification review by DON Declass program reviewers. DON Declass follows Original Classification Authority (OCA)-provided declass guides. Therefore, the records in question were/are already determined to not hold classified info. (Yet the policy in effect for the last couple years requires us to send it to the OCA for yet another review, which is why INDOPACOM is reviewing records from WWII.)

Background:

FOIA reviews look for nine exemptions that may trigger denial of release, like PII. None have to do with declassifying national security info.

The DON Declass program reviews permanent, 25-year-old records prior to auto declassification for nine categories of national security information that can be exempted from auto declass. If the record contains exempt info, it fails auto declass. The next step for a requestor would be to ask for a mandatory declass review of the document. Once complete, the document would be delivered to the requestor with the exempt info redacted.

Also, if DON Declass finds equities that belong to another agency, they will refer the record to that agency for auto declass review.

In the case of the records that contain information excluded under a specific law (e.g. Atomic Energy Act for RD/FRD), then DON Declass refers the record to the agency designated in the law for declass review.

If this isn't clear, I can try again, as the process is very industrial-age bureaucratic. NHHHC does the FOIA reviews. Department of the Navy (DON) Declass does the review for classified material.

Very respectfully,

Sam

---

From: Richardson, John M ADM CNO  
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 4:22:56 PM  
To: Cox, Samuel J SES NHHHC, DNS-H  
Cc: Moran, William F ADM, OPNAV, VCNO; Donegan, Kevin M VADM OPNAV, DNS; (b) (6) CAPT OPNAV, N00;  
Easter, Steffanie B SES OPNAV, VDNS; (b) (6) CAPT OPNAV, DNS EA; (b) (6) LCDR OPNAV, DNS; (b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV NHHHC, Deputy Director; (b) (6) CIV NHHHC; (b) (6) CIV NHHHC, DAG  
Subject: RE: NHHHC May CNO Monthly Report - follow up.

Thanks Sam. Does the FOIA process review sufficiently remove classified information? Who makes that call?

VR/ John

-----Original Message-----

From: Cox, Samuel J SES NHHHC, DNS-H  
Sent: Friday, June 01, 2018 6:17 AM  
To: Richardson, John M ADM CNO; Cox, Samuel J SES NHHHC, DNS-H  
Cc: Moran, William F ADM, OPNAV, VCNO; Donegan, Kevin M VADM OPNAV, DNS; (b) (6) CAPT OPNAV, N00;  
Easter, Steffanie B SES OPNAV, VDNS; (b) (6) CAPT OPNAV, DNS EA; (b) (6) LCDR OPNAV, DNS; (b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV NHHHC, Deputy Director; (b) (6) CIV NHHHC; Cox, Samuel J SES NHHHC, DNS-H; (b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV NHHHC, DAG  
Subject: RE: NHHHC May CNO Monthly Report - follow up.

CNO,

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

Sam

-----Original Message-----

From: Richardson, John M ADM CNO

Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2018 7:43 AM

To: Cox, Samuel J SES NHHHC, DNS-H <(b) (6).mil>

Cc: Moran, William F ADM, OPNAV, VCNO <(b) (6).mil>; Donegan, Kevin M VADM OPNAV, DNS

<(b) (6).mil>; (b) (6) CAPT OPNAV, N00 (b) (6).mil>; Easter, Steffanie B

SES OPNAV, VDNS (b) (6).mil>; (b) (6) CAPT OPNAV, DNS EA <(b) (6).mil>; (b) (6)

(b) (6) LCDR OPNAV, DNS (b) (6).mil>; (b) (6) CDR NHHHC, Chief of Staff (b) (6).mil>; (b) (6)

(b) (6) CIV NHHHC, Deputy Director <(b) (6).mil> (b) (6) CIV NHHHC

<(b) (6).mil>; (b) (6) CIV NHHHC, DAG (b) (6).mil>; Cox, Samuel J

SES NHHHC, DNS-H <(b) (6).mil>

Subject: RE: NHHHC CNO Monthly Report

Thanks Sam.

- I'd like to know the details of the OCA vs FOIA conflict. Please keep me posted

(b) (5)

- for Midway, I'll do the dinner and the Congressional events. VCNO will do the sea of white. Thanks for your great support

Thanks much for your team's help on SCORPION. Was a very meaningful event.

Hope you and your team had a meaningful Memorial Day.

VR/ John

Sent from my mobile

---

From: Cox, Samuel J SES NHHHC, DNS-H

Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2018 6:07:11 AM

To: Richardson, John M ADM CNO

Cc: Moran, William F ADM, OPNAV, VCNO; Donegan, Kevin M VADM OPNAV, DNS; (b) (6) CAPT OPNAV, N00; (b) (6) CDR CNO, Deputy EA; (b) (6) CDR CNO; Easter, Steffanie B SES OPNAV, VDNS; (b) (6) CAPT OPNAV, DNS EA; (b) (6) LCDR OPNAV, DNS; (b) (6) CDR NHHHC, Chief of Staff; (b) (6) CIV NHHHC, Deputy Director; (b) (6) CIV NHHHC; (b) (6) CIV NHHHC, DAG; Cox, Samuel J SES NHHHC, DNS-H  
Subject: NHHHC CNO Monthly Report

CNO,

I. NHHHC Important and Urgent Interest Items (May 2018):

Navy IG Inspection. Navy IG visited NHHHC this month and concluded on 25 May. We expect the initial results in June from the IG.

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

II. NHHC Important but Not Urgent (May 2018):

(b) (5)



Public Access to Declassified Records - Update. The OSD Directorate for Oversight and Compliance has stated that DON policy regarding the required Original Classification Authority (OCA) review for declassified records prior to their public release conflicts with the Freedom of Information Act. OSD has referred us to Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence USD(I) for follow-on discussions about amending the OCA review requirement. We are coordinating with DUSN(P) in advance of the meeting.

(b) (5)



III. Less important but interesting (May 2018):

Battle of Midway. There are commemorative events planned across the Fleet from 1-7 June. We are standing by to support your engagements IRT the 3 June Battle of Midway dinner hosted by the Naval Historical Foundation at the Army-Navy Country Club and the 5 June Sea of White Ceremony at the Navy Memorial. We will have significant presence at the 6 June Battle of Midway Congressional reception; SECNAV is scheduled to attend. My Communications and Outreach Division has provided a digital commemoration tool kit on the Battle of Midway for use across the Fleet as they plan their commemorative events.

CONSTITUTION Turnaround Cruise. USS CONSTITUTION successfully completed her first public turnaround cruise on 18 May. The next turnaround cruise is schedule for 8 June.

I hope the USS SCORPION commemoration went well.

Very respectfully,

Sam

Samuel J. Cox  
RADM, USN (Retired)  
Director of Naval History  
Curator of the Navy  
Director, Naval History and Heritage Command  
202-433-2210 (b) (6) .mil